

**Alexandria Electoral Board
Minutes for September 1, 2016 Meeting**

Chairman Brown called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m. Mr. Brown indicated that Susan B. Kellom, Secretary of the Alexandria Electoral Board, was not present due to medical reasons. Present were two members of the Alexandria Electoral Board (Bruce A. Brown and Jack Powers), Anna Leider, General Registrar and Eric Spicer, Elections Administrator.

After the call to order, Mr. Powers moved for the Board to approve the minutes for the July 14, 2016, Board Meeting. Mr. Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Electoral Board Reports

The Board discussed a recent news article in the Alexandria Gazette (about voting in Alexandria) that referred to Virginia's voter identification requirements as "stringent." Mr. Brown noted that this type of characterization belonged in an editorial, not a news article. The Board also discussed an article that appeared in the Washington Post on September 1, concerning the potential for hacking voting systems. The Board agreed that the City of Alexandria's voting system is secure. Mr. Powers also shared a voter guide from Minnesota with the Board. The Board also discussed pending litigation that has been initiated against the Commonwealth of Virginia on the Restoration of Rights issue.

Election Officer Additions and Deletions

Ms. Leider and Mr. Spicer provided the Board with a list of additions and deletions to the list of appointed election officers (Attachment). The Board reviewed the list and Mr. Powers moved to approve the election officer additions and deletions. Mr. Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Policy Concerning Authorized Representatives in the Polling Places

Ms. Leider briefed the Board on guidance from the state about the role of Authorized Representatives in the polling place. The Board agreed that Authorized Representatives must address any concerns about the voting process with the Chief Officer rather than with the voter. In addition, it will be important to spend time in the Chiefs' training session discussing the role of authorized representatives, and the penalties for intimidation and the abuse of the right to challenge voters.

Policy Concerning Use of Phones and Electronic Devices at Polling Places

Ms. Leider briefed the Board on new regulations concerning the use of phones and electronic devices in polling places. After discussing this issue, the Board agreed that voters may not make or receive phone calls while inside the voting room, as such use could be disruptive to the voting process. Furthermore, voters may not take pictures within the polling place, with the exception of "Ballot Selfies" at the voting booth. This new guidance is a result of a legal opinion in a federal court case in New Hampshire which ruled that taking a picture of one's own ballot is a form of protected political speech. Voters will also be allowed to use their electronic devices for non-audible activities without restriction, unless election officers feel that such use is hindering, delaying or disrupting the voting process. Staff will produce a new sign to post in polling places indicating that phone calls are not permitted in the voting area.

Report from Elections Office

Ms. Leider and Mr. Spicer provided the Electoral Board with an update on:

- Alexandria's registration statistics, including the results of the National Change of Address (NCOA) mailing.
- List of 89 Alexandria voters whose registrations were cancelled when the Supreme Court's overturned the Governor's April, May and June Restoration Orders.

- Revised procedure for processing voter registration applications submitted through DMV.
- Preparations for the November 8 General Election, including approval of the Citywide mailing and the ballot format for Alexandria.

Executive Session

Mr. Brown moved for the Board to open an Executive Session at 1:20 p.m. to discuss legal matters. Mr. Powers seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mr. Brown moved to return to the Open Session at 1:44 p.m. Mr. Powers seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mr. Brown reported that no votes were taken during the Executive Session and that the Board discussed legal matters.

Future Board Meetings

The Board agreed to schedule the following Board Meetings:

October 6 - 9:30 a.m. – Regular Board Meeting

November 7 – 9:30 a.m. – Brief Board Meeting to address any pre-election matters

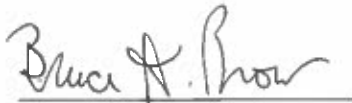
November 9 – 9:30 a.m. – Canvass for the November 8 Election

November 9 – 10:00 a.m. – Provisional Ballot Hearing

November 14 – 11:00 a.m. – Board Meeting (Review Statement of Results and Provisional Ballots)

November 15 – 7:30 p.m. – Meeting with Chief Election Officers

Mr. Powers moved to adjourn the Board Meeting at 1:51 p.m. Mr. Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.



Bruce A. Brown
Chairman



Jack Powers
Vice Chair